

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM FILLING VITAL NEED



Leiron Flournoy, left, a teacher's assistant, helping children enrolled in New Community's After School Program with homework at the New Horizons Community Charter School.

For 11-year-old Deangelo Deloach of Newark, math is a subject he enjoys but in which he occasionally also needs help when it comes to problem-solving. That was the case on a recent afternoon when the fifth grader found himself unsure of a geometry question where he was asked to find the unknown angle in a triangle.

"Mr. Flournoy, is this right?" DeLoach asked the teacher's assistant who is assigned to New Community's After School Program.

Every weekday from 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., nearly 100 students in grades K-5 gather for homework assistance and recreation as part of the After School program, which offers a comprehensive approach to addressing both the academic and social development of youth.

The program serves students in grades K-5 and is based at the New Horizons Community Charter School, which was founded by New Community. A similar program also

operates out of the Newton Street School for grades K-1.

In addition to reinforcing what they have learned in school, the After School program also offers an array of activities, including recreation, arts & crafts, computers and cultural enhancement. Students who require additional help in core subject areas are provided with one-on-one tutoring from both high school and adult volunteers, along with paid staff.

"The After School program is more than a safe place for children; it's a place where children can engage in academic, social and physical activities that encourage them to explore who they are and what they can achieve," said Ed Morris, Director of Youth Services for New Community Corporation.

As part of the program, children also receive a nutritious snack, consisting of a sandwich, juice, yogurt and fruit during the portion of the program known as the "Kid's Café."

Patience

"A handful of patience is worth more than a bushel of brains."

Cato the Elder

"How poor are they that have not patience! What wound did ever heal but by degrees?"

William Shakespeare

"Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait I say, on the Lord. (Psalm 27:14)"

Holy Bible (KJV)

"Seek patience and passion in equal amounts. Patience alone will not build the temple. Passion alone will destroy its walls."

Maya Angelou

"Adopt the pace of nature. Her secret is patience."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

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Afterschool program....cont'd

Folashande Odubona, age 9, a fourth grader, said she really enjoys the program.

"It helps me get my homework done and makes me feel thankful for having someone help me," she said.

Andre Hollis, principal of the New Horizons Community Charter School, said the program provides students with "rich and valuable opportunities to extend their learning beyond the classroom."

"They're cared for, they are nurtured and they're given the skills and strategies needed to be excellent students," he said. Parents love it too.

"The After School Program is great for working parents. It gives us an opportunity to make money knowing our kids are in a safe environment and they provide them with nutritious meals and help with homework and studies," said Coretta Roberts, one of the parents. "NCC After School Program is the best, parents need it and kids love it!"

NCC On The Move



Springfield Village

New Community is continuing its leadership in the area of affordable housing with the recent groundbreaking on Springfield Village, a new \$27.4 million, mixed-use development in Newark's Central Ward that will feature rental housing for low income individuals, families and seniors.

The groundbreaking for the 120-unit development was held on Oct. 9 in a ceremony at the construction site on Springfield Ave. attended by NCC officials, Newark Mayor Cory Booker and state housing officials. Slated for completion in the fall of 2013, the project will have special set asides for special needs populations like homeless veterans and will also include retail space.

New Community has partnered with UMDNJ-University Behavioral Healthcare to build a 20-unit residence for the chronically homeless designed to offer them stability, along with needed healthcare services, keeping them out of hospital emergency rooms.

A Better Life, as the permanent, supportive housing will be called, is to be built on 14th Avenue in Newark's Central Ward. In addition to efficiency apartments and short-term respite rooms, the staffed residence will offer life skills training and referral to mental and health care services. The anticipated opening is the spring/summer of 2014.



A Better Life

New Community Food Pantry Helping Families and Seniors Make Ends Meet



Angelica Jaquez, right, receiving food from Joanne Goosby, outreach coordinator for the New Community Department of Health and Social Services.

Angelica Jaquez is an unemployed, single, mother with three small children, ranging in age from 1 to 4. Although she receives public assistance and food stamps, she finds herself struggling to put enough food on the table, especially near the end of the month.

About five months ago, she learned about New Community's food pantry, which operates out of its Department of Health and Social Services office at 220 Bruce Street in Newark. Once a month, Jaquez frequents the pantry, where she is provided with bags filled with items like potatoes, canned vegetables, rice, cereal and even chicken.

"It helps me out because sometimes I can't buy enough food. I try to get everything my kids like to eat," said Jaquez, who lives on Bedford Street in Newark's Central Ward, just a block away from the food pantry.

Visits to the pantry have been increasing. On average, the pantry now serves 700 visitors a month, many of them senior citizens on a fixed income or parents with multiple children just trying to make sure their kids have enough food to eat.

"It's very helpful. I am living on a fixed income and sometimes I still run out of necessities," said Dellria Seales, 60, a resident of New Community Commons

Senior, who is a regular pantry visitor.

According to Sharon Pleasant Jones, New Community's Director of Health and Social Services, the pantry is serving a vital need in the community, helping to supplement the nutritional needs of individuals and families with children who otherwise might simply go without.

"Going to a pantry can be a very humbling experience for many people," she said. "The good thing about our pantry is that you simply have to show an ID or your children's birth certificates and you are able to receive food," she said. "People are so grateful and tell us all the time how it is helping to stretch their food budget."

The pantry is generally open from the 16th to the end of the month, when food supplies start running low for families and individuals. In December, however, it was open the entire month.



MATERNITY GROUP HOME

New Community's Maternity Group Home program at Harmony House is continuing to provide support and shelter to pregnant and parenting teens. The young ladies receive a variety of support services, such as parenting classes, help with vocational and career planning, supplies for their infants and nutritious meals for themselves. In this photo, participants Yayee Konah, left, 19, with her three week old daughter, Pilar, and Victoria Turner, 20, with her two week old son, Dre'shaan Izayah Turner.

Malcom Hayman



As Malcom Hayman goes about his duties as Assistant Director of New Community's Department of Health and Social Services, the people whose lives he touches are very much a part of the fabric of the city he has come to love.

"The aspect of my work that I enjoy most is service to others," said Hayman, 54, who was born and raised in Newark in a family consisting of his mother, father, and four siblings. "Providing assistance to people in need has always given me great joy," he added.

After graduating from Newark's Vailsburg High School in 1976, Hayman joined the US Air Force. He received an honorable discharge in 1980. Later, he attended San Francisco State College, studying Business Administration. He is currently studying Human and Social Services at Essex County

College in Newark.

Throughout the years, Hayman has worked for every level of government, with his past positions including serving as an investigator with the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights; an aide to the late New Jersey State Assemblyman and Newark Councilman Donald Tucker and Councilwoman Mamie Bridgeforth and as an aide to Essex County Freeholder Rufus Johnson.

"I learned the importance of being resourceful and networking to obtain the goods and services needed by clients, customers and constituents," he said. "I learned the value of maintaining contact with people and have learned to care about and assist people from all walks of life."

Hayman joined New Community in 2008 as a social worker for

families. He was promoted to his present position of Assistant Director in April of 2011 by Sharon Pleasant Jones, RN, department director.

"Malcolm is tireless, especially when a task needs to get done," she said. "He is the first to arrive in the morning and the last one to leave at night. He is an excellent assistant and we work very well together. He also has a pleasant disposition and is friendly and sociable."

As Assistant Director, Hayman supervises and serves as administrator for a staff of 18, planning and coordinating events for families and seniors living in New Community residential facilities and overseeing all aspects of social services, including assisting the tenant associations.

Hayman, who is single, said he is most proud of the food pantry run by his department, calling food "a basic need" that many families and individuals struggle to provide.

"Malcolm has a goal to feed everyone that is hungry and goes out of his way weekly to obtain food for the residents and surrounding community," Pleasant Jones added.

When he is not working, Hayman loves to read and bowl. A member of Bethany Baptist Church in Newark, he is also involved in two other community organizations – the Ivy Hill Neighborhood Association and Project Re-Direct, of which he is a board member.

OUR MISSION

To help residents of inner cities improve the quality of their lives to reflect individual, God-given dignity and personal achievement.